Dear Jerry,

12/27/76

During severe weather or when there is snow on the ground or when it is raining I follow a different routine. I start getting my day's exercise to the hour-long 7 a.m. TV news. I bicycle in the house with a stationary bicycle. This works my legs, which make the blood circulate in them. Since I saw you I've done about 250 miles this way at an average speed of about 15 mph. Some days I do as much as 15 miles.

I have about 15 minutes before then. When I was shaving earlier I heard something on the radio that reminded me of all the craziness about which I have been able to do nothing with any of you. So I'll use these few minutes to update you.

J.B. phoned me Xmas day. He understood clearly enough what I was driving at in the letter to you I told you I'd send him. He also sees it clearly enough. We talked for about a half hour. He is going to do what you did not, come here and see what I have been doing while you all have been jackassing. He understands it legally as you and Jimmy do not, so clearly that he said the meaning without me having to tell him.

If you have been reading any papers, listening to the radio or watching TV you should have come to realize that what I was telling you about the committee and about Fauntroy in particular is absolutely true, maybe a little worse than I said because they have disclosed their hand so fully and so soo. They are doing exactly what I told Jimmy they would do, use him and the King assassination as sucker bait to get their life extended and to get an appropriation.

I don't always spot all there is to spot but I did this time and went to work right away. The first sign was their leak to the Jack Anderson column. I spoke to two reporters. I called them. One called him. If it had not been for this the stories would have been even worse. They'd have made it look like the family, for example, was the source of those lies. (Jim may be right in thinking it could be Avery.) I got at least one to phone Fauntroy and Lane. Fauntroy had to ease off on his b.s. and Lane had to say that he did not believe it. The rest of Lane's statement is bad. It makes Jimmy look like a conscious conspirator and the killer, too.

I have not seen the other paper. It is a major paper, not Washington, and the local news stand was close Xmas day. Jim was to get it in Washington but we have not spoken since then.

I'm telling you again, even though to now it has been a waste of time, you and Jimmy are playing the game of your enemies. You are ruining yourselves. You think you understand public relations and how the political mind works and on these things you are a baby. If you did not learn from McMillan I guess you'll never learn. I started warning you against what you were doing in 1969 but you paid no attention. If it had not been for you, with a little assist from John, he would never have had a book. That book is a bomb but it is the excuse for getting him all over TV and radio.

I think J.B. will tell you what he thinks so I'll not. But he clearly understood what you were risking doing to yourself in all this, too.

These people are out to get all of you, asI told you all to begin with. Jimmy, naturally, is the Perry Mason of the thick walls. What happens outside of them means nothing. What he tells himself does. So he does only what is wrong and hurtful, as you did in what you told Jimmy. What you can do to help is send Jim or me the clippings from the papers. The Chicago and St. Louis papers may carry different stories with different quotations. When you write Carol ask her to do this to. Whichever of us gets them will give the other copies. These can be important so please do it. We have the Anderson column of the 24th but begin with the stories that followed it. It is because I was sure that the papers would go for that stuff that I started working on it. As a result we have a better idea of what they are up to. Other accounts can add to this.

Sincerely,